



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

1501 MAIL SERVICE CENTER, RALEIGH, N.C. 27699-1501

LYNDO TIPPETT
SECRETARY

August 31, 2005

Mr. John Sullivan II, Division Administrator
Federal Highway administration
North Carolina Division
310 New Bern Avenue, Suite 410
Raleigh, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

The North Carolina Department of Transportation has been working with the North Carolina Association of MPOs (NCAMPO) and the individual MPOs over the last 14 months to update the distribution formula for Section PL 104(f) federal planning funds. On December 17, 2004, the NCAMPOs approved a revised distribution formula that more clearly reflects the program requirements of each MPO.

The formula has been revised to the following: \$130,000 equal share to each of the seventeen MPOs with the remainder to be distributed by pro-rata share based on MPO UZA population as determined by the most recent US census.

The North Carolina Department of Transportation is recommending the approval of the revised allocation formula and is submitting it to the Secretary of USDOT for approval. Upon approval, it will be implemented with the distribution of SFY 2007 PL 104(f) funds this fall.

If you have any questions, or would like further information, please contact Mike Bruff, PE at mbruff@dot.state.nc.us or (919) 733-4705.

Sincerely,

Lyndo Tippet

LT/msb

RESOLUTION MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION FOR CHANGES TO THE STATEWIDE DISTRIBUTION FORMULA FOR
SECTION 104(f) METROPOLITAN PLANNING FUNDS

A motion was made by NCAMPO Member Mike Nunn and seconded by NCAMPO Member Scot Sibert for the adoption of the following resolution, and upon being put to a vote was duly adopted.

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Transportation Transportation Planning Branch has asked for input from NCAMPO on revisions to the formula for distributing federal aid transportation planning funds (Section 10F4 "PL") to MPOs in North Carolina; AND

WHEREAS, NCAMPO conducted a process to thoroughly review the current allocation formula and to equitably distribute funds to all North Carolina MPOs; AND

WHEREAS, the current formula (50% of the total split equally among all 17 MPO's and 50% prorated by latest certified census UZA population) was established by the NCDOT Thoroughfare Planning Unit in the early 1970's; AND

WHEREAS, a number of significant changes occurred in the 1980s and 1990s to warrant a review of the distribution formula for Section 104F funds. These changes include: 1) The addition of six more MPOs in North Carolina as a result of the 1980 and 1990 Census; 2) The passage of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 (CAAA) and the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) and the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) in 1997; AND

WHEREAS, these federal laws increased expectations for of all MPO's and created substantial additional requirements for those: (1) having census UZA populations of 200,000 or greater which were designated as Transportation Management Areas (TMA's); and, (2) those MPO's who were designated as being a non-attainment or maintenance area for one or more of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) established by the CAAA; AND

WHEREAS, NCAMPO convened a subcommittee, conducted a member survey, and discussed the PL formula at length at NCAMPO board meetings, and consulted with individual MPO policy boards and technical committees.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the North Carolina Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations makes the following findings:

Section I. NCAMPO requests that the NCDOT consider the following policy changes:

A. Amend the PL allocation formula as soon as possible to the following:

\$ 130,000 Equal Share to each MPO, with the remainder to be distributed by pro-rata by MPO UZA Population.

B. Supplement the PL fund allocations of those MPO's who would otherwise receive less money under the new formula to be at least equal to the most recent PL allocation (FY 2005), until future increases in

the total PL funds received by North Carolina makes NCDOT providing such supplemental "hold harmless" funds no longer necessary.

C. Hold harmless any MPO's that decide to consolidate from any reduction in the total amount of PL funds they would have been eligible to receive separately.

Section II. NCAMPO recommends that future NCAMPO Boards:

- A. Review the equal share portion of the formula after each decennial census when UZA population changes are announced.
- B. Review the PL Formula every three years for how well it provides for the needs of all North Carolina MPOs.

I, Tyler Meyer, NCAMPO Chair
(Name of Certifying Official) (Title of Certifying Official)

do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of an excerpt from the minutes of a meeting of the North Carolina Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations duly held on this the 17th day of December, 2004.

Tyler Meyer
Chair, NC Association of MPOs

Subscribed and sworn to me this 17th day of December, 2004.

Margie L. Chasmon
Notary Public

My commission expires 6-23-07.